

MAY BE A "SHIELDS" WAR NOW ON "BRIGGS" LINES.

Friends of the Much-Loved Princeton Professor Both Grieved and Angry at the "Uncalled For" Criticism Which Caused Him to Withdraw from the Church He Had Served So Long.

CENSURE WAS UNCALLED FOR.

THE Rev. Dr. Francis Brown, professor of Hebrew and the cognate languages in the Union Theological Seminary, is both sorry at Dr. Shields's retirement from the Presbyterian Church and angry at the Western Presbyterian and Synods whose intemperance in language brought it about. His sympathy is all for Dr. Shields.

But, as Professor Brown clearly pointed out, in the library of his home at No. 119 West Ninety-fifth street, last night, this will not bring on an encounter between the General Assembly and Princeton University, as the famous Briggs case brought about between the General Assembly and the Union Theological Seminary.

"It must be remembered," said Professor Brown, "that Dr. Shields is a professor in Princeton University, and not in the Theological Seminary at Princeton. These two institutions are organically distinct. They are simply in the same town. The university has, by the way, several times of late emphasized this distinction.

"The university stands in no organic relation to any ecclesiastical body, such as a presbytery, or a synod, or the General Assembly. The Theological Seminary at Princeton is, within certain limits, under the supervision of the General Assembly.

"Dr. Shields, as a Presbyterian minister, was (like any other Presbyterian minister) subject to the jurisdiction of the Presbytery within whose bounds he lived (in his case, the Presbytery of New Brunswick). The only way in which he could have been reached by ecclesiastical process would have been through charges preferred against him before the Presbytery of New Brunswick. No such charges have been preferred, but Professor Shields has withdrawn from the Presbyterian Church voluntarily because of severe criticism made by certain Western Synods (I recall particularly Indiana), upon his action in the matter of licensing Princeton Inn.

"I do not have before me the attacks of these presbyteries and synods which are characterized by Dr. Shields as 'unjust, unconstitutional and defamatory.' But if they involve the condemnation of him personally, simply on the basis of reports in regard to his action in the matter referred to, I agree with him that the attacks are 'unjust, unconstitutional and defamatory.'

"I think that the words 'uncalled for' might be added, for these presbyteries and synods have entirely transcended their rights, according to Presbyterian law. The declarations of the General Assembly, to which the Presbytery of New Brunswick refers in its action, are, I believe:

"This General Assembly, believing the manufacture, sale and use of alcoholic stimulants as a beverage to be contrary to the spirit of God's word, and wholly inconsistent with the claims of Christian duty, reiterates the testimonies of former assemblies on this subject.

"The Assembly also affirms their conviction of the reprehensible complicity in the guilt of the aforesaid traffic of those who knowingly rent their premises for such purpose or endorse license that legalize it.—Resolution from page 490, minutes of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of the United States, 1871, which has been reaffirmed by nearly every General Assembly since that time.

"Resolved: 1. That we regard the liquor traffic as the overshadowing curse of this nation, an enemy to the peace, purity and prosperity of the home, the church and the State. To license this traffic is a sin against God and a crime against humanity. Being morally wrong, it can never be made legally right. We believe that the time has fully come when Christians should cease to be indifferent, and should unite their efforts, regardless of previous party affiliations, for its complete suppression.—General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, June, 1894.

"These are not parts of the constitution of the Presbyterian Church. They have never been voted upon by the Presbyteries, which would be necessary to make them such. They are not, therefore, Presbyterian law, but only declarations of the views of the General Assemblies which made them.

"Personally I am very sorry that Dr. Shields has felt it necessary to withdraw. I have no doubt he acted from the highest and most conscientious motives in signing the license. He was actively interested in the matter and knew about it from all points of view, and he must have been certain that in signing the application he was doing the best thing under the circumstances. I have every confidence in Dr. Shields, as must every man that has ever known him. The attacks upon him, especially from the West, have been most unfair. In that his character and personality were not taken into account in making the criticisms.

"The Presbyterian Church has never even made a law concerning prohibition for its ministers. There have been deliverances issued by some Assemblies recommending that intoxicating liquors be not used as beverages, and also that unfermented wines be used for the communion table, but that is all."

Professor Brown is a sturdy fighter for independence of thought and individual liberty. He stood back of Professor Briggs during that memorable trial for nineteenth century heresy, at the conclusion of which the Union Theological Seminary politely told the august General Assembly that it would keep its "heretic," despite the frowns and threats of the head of the Presbyterian Church. The seminary has, by the way, flourished mightily ever since.

Professor Brown was also one of the few who fought and conquered the majority in the recent Assembly who wanted to throw out without a hearing the reformed Jew, Warsawsk.

He will not say so, but it is extremely probable that he will stand in the front of Dr. Shields's supporters should the New Brunswick Presbytery try to do something with the case at the next Assembly.

A RAP FOR CLEVELAND.

Editor of the Journal:

I CAN only discuss Dr. Shields's action from one view point, and that is as a minister of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, which, in its statute law, imposes total abstinence upon all its ministers and people. I see by the Journal that Mr. Cleveland says that he is not sorry he signed Princeton Inn's liquor license petition; but let him wait until his boy grows up and is exposed to temptations like those his father now thinks so lightly of, and he may alter his opinion.

Section 6 of our statute bearing on "church fellowship" specifies that the followers of Christ should totally abstain from the manufacture, sale and use of intoxicants as a beverage.

Of course, I can, under this prohibition, and no excuse for the action of Dr. Shields.

R. M. SOMMERVILLE,
Rector of Third Reformed Presbyterian Church.

SHIELDS HONEST BUT INJUDICIOUS.

Editor of the Journal:

THERE is no doubt in my mind but that Dr. Shields acted from the best motives in signing that application, but personally speaking, I think he acted injudiciously. He performed an act which any minister of the Presbyterian Church would at least have carefully pondered beforehand.

Of course, there is no law in the church which would subject him to discipline, because there is no provision in the statute law which exactly covers his case. President Patton was right in his contention that the Presbytery was obliged to accept Dr. Shields's resignation without seeking to review it.

There can only be one opinion, however, in the church at large, and that is that Dr. Shields should have been given an opportunity to explain his action which must then have appeared to any right-minded body to have been not without justification and certainly entirely honest in its intent.

C. A. STODDARD,
Editor New York Observer.

SHIELDS BEHIND THE PROCESSION.

Editor of the Journal:

THE unfortunate occurrence at Princeton can be viewed but with regret; and the more so because of the standing of Dr. Shields. A Christian gentleman by nature and brotherly in practice, he commands universal respect. However, in signing the application for license, it must be admitted he erred, not intentionally, but none the less surely. Once it was called to his attention he should have recalled the act, so far as would be possible, and given assurance that the wrong would not be repeated. To withdraw, under the circumstances from the Presbyterian communion is, on the part of Dr. Shields, injudicious and unwise, inasmuch as it he cause still remains, and change of church relation cannot alter public opinion in reference thereto.

It should be borne in mind that run-selling, run-drinking, and licensing the traffic, are now viewed by the Evangelical Church in a light widely different from that of two generations ago, and those who do not keep up with the procession are between contending armies. Dr. Shields has lagged a little behind and has been "hard hit." But barring this error in judgment, he rates high up among the many distinguished ministers in the Presbyterian Church. It is believed, also, that this error will be soon corrected. Hence his withdrawal from the body is to be more regretted.

F. M. FOSTER,
Pastor of Third Reformed Presbyterian Church, Twenty-third street.

COMPARED TO MARTIN THORN.

DO NOT believe there is any difference of opinion among Presbyterian ministers as to the culpability of the Rev. Dr. Shields in signing, as a Presbyterian minister, that application for a license to sell liquor at the Princeton Inn.

There is a deliverance of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church which recommends but does not command the use of unfermented wine in

has been nominated to the post, the appointment being regarded as an act of atonement on the part of the czar for the slight which a few weeks ago he placed upon the Grand Duke of Baden by refusing to receive his visit at Darmstadt.

CAUGHT A TARTAR.

Attempt to Blackmail Lord Carrington, Who Took Exception to Fay Templeton's Costume.

London, Nov. 12.—Lord Carrington, who while Lord Chamberlain distinguished

churches; in other words, the Presbyterian Church has so announced its decided opposition to any use whatsoever of intoxicants.

So also there is a deliverance of the General Assembly which characterizes as reprehensible any encouragement given to saloons or to the liquor traffic, and this deliverance is particularly blinding upon ministers of the church.

For this reason, it seems to me that the New Brunswick Presbytery might have been justified in formulating charges against Dr. Shields, but the utmost they could have done would have been to impose a sentence of mild censure.

But as there were no charges against Dr. Shields, he had a perfect right to ask to have his name erased from the roll of the Presbytery. Just, for example, as Martin Thorn, previous to his arrest, would have been entitled to all the rights of an innocent man.

But Dr. Shields's action must have a very important bearing upon his standing as a Professor in Princeton University, because he owes that standing to his connection with the theological seminary which has again and again avowed its allegiance to the General Assembly. The directors of the seminary, if they are true to this allegiance, will probably ask for Dr. Shields's resignation.

JESSE F. FORBES,

President Adams Memorial Presbyterian Church.

HAS NOT BROKEN CHURCH LAW.

Editor of the Journal:

WHILE I do not care to express any opinion in reference to Dr. Shields's case, I will say that in my judgment he has been guilty of no offence against ecclesiastical law.

While the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church has repeatedly placed itself on record as against the encouragement of the liquor traffic or the use of intoxicants in any form, these deliverances do not, strictly speaking, constitute a part of the statute law of the Church.

As I understand it, Dr. Shields's standing as a professor is not affected by his action in the Princeton Inn matter, as he is a professor in the university, and has no connection whatever with the theological seminary.

HENRY VAN DYKE,

Pastor Brick Presbyterian Church, Fifth avenue and Thirty-seventh street.

It looks now as though the resignation himself by objecting in his capacity as censor of the stage to the costume of Fay Templeton as improper, appeared to-day at the Westminster police court for the purpose of prosecuting an elderly woman for attempting to blackmail him. She charged him with having betrayed and subsequently deserted her many years ago under the name of Lloyd, but withdrew this allegation in court to-day, declaring that she had made a mistake. As she had previously attempted to blackmail the Duke of Argyll's son, Lord Arosbald Campbell, in the same way, and had evaded punishment by an analogous excuse, the judge committed her for trial.

INQUIRY ORDERED.

British General Called to Book for a Very Disastrous Reconnoissance.

Simla, Nov. 12.—The Viceroy of India, the Earl of Elgin, has ordered a Court of Inquiry to investigate the disastrous British reconnoissance, under General Westmacott, which, on Wednesday last, reached the summit of the Saran-Sar Mountain with little resistance and afterward retreated, closely pursued by the enemy, with the loss of about fifty killed and wounded, the British rear guard being only saved from annihilation by the happy disposition made of the troops by the commanding officer.

Killed to the Last Man.

Among the killed were Lieutenant McIntyre and 12 men of the Northamptonshire regiment, who preferred to sacrifice their lives rather than to desert their wounded comrades, the position in which the bodies were found showing they died bravely fighting to the last. The enemy was afraid to rush upon the little band, but shot at them from points of vantage until every man of the British detachment had succumbed to rifle bullet wounds.

JUNIORS FAIL AGAIN.

The juniors of the New York Law School met yesterday in the lecture room to make a second attempt to elect officers of a class organization, and the seniors were on hand, as usual, to prevent their doing so. The juniors tried to organize a week ago, but the seniors overwhelmed

DR. FEENEY GAINS A POINT.

George Cromwell's Contention as to Richmond County Canvassers' Power in the Election Case Overruled.

When the Richmond County Board of Supervisors and Board of Canvassers met in the Richmond County Court House yesterday morning, Dr. Feeny, who is president of the former Board, arose and asked to be excused from voting on all questions arising from the Middletown vote, Dr. Feeny's town.

"I want my skirts to be kept clear," he declared amid applause, "and want no grounds for insinuations."

The Sixth District of Middletown is where the dispute lies on which the success of one or the other candidate turns.

The fight turns on the jurisdiction of the Board of Canvassers. In compliance with a resolution of the Board of Supervisors, the election boards from the disputed districts were on hand yesterday to correct clerical errors in their returns. John M. Davenport, counsel for George Cromwell, the Republican candidate, president of Richmond Borough, who claims to have defeated Dr. Feeny by one vote, on the face of the returns, fought this step bitterly.

The Board decided against Mr. Davenport, and inspectors were summoned last night from the various districts to correct what errors had been discovered. No matter which side gets the certificate of election the other side will contest the case in the courts.

CZAR MAKES AMENDS.

He Atones for His Affront to the Grand Duke of Baden in Refusing to Receive Him.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 12.—An Imperial ukase, just issued, announces that, it being considered expedient to appoint a permanent envoy at Karlsruhe, capital of the Grand Duchy of Baden, Prince Cantacuzene, who has hitherto represented Russia at Stuttgart, capital of the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, and at Karlsruhe, has been relieved of his post at the Court of Baden.

M. Kotzebe, now Envoy at Washington.

Business Notices.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The fac-simile signature of J. H. Hatcher is on every wrapper.

Deaths.

HEYDT—Herman Heydt, on November 11, at his residence, No. 301 West 91st st., in the 56th year of his age.

Interment private on Sunday afternoon. It is requested that flowers be omitted.

MARROW—Suddenly, John E., beloved husband of Mary Marrow. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, No. 16 Marrow place, Jersey City, on Sunday, November 14, at 12 noon. Members of C. E. L. Council, No. 250, New York, are requested to attend. Interment Calvary.

them. James Hobart, of Rutgers, took the chair to call the juniors to order, and the seniors, as one man, bowed like Indians. The juniors howled back. Seniors and juniors pressed together, nose to nose, and mouth to mouth, and howled into each other's throats. Thereupon the most warlike of the juniors, Nathan D. Jacoby, the class orator, essayed the office of the chair. Malcom Frazier arose to a question of personal privilege. For a moment the seniors listened. "My color has been utilized in this struggle for right," said the big, black junior from New Jersey, "to bring confusion and laughter upon the cause of the juniors. This action I denounce as illegal." The rest of his speech was drowned in howls, and the storm continued throughout the meeting. The junior class was not organized. The juniors have appealed to the faculty for official attendance at the next meeting.

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